In the Claims

Claims 1-3 (canceled)

Claim 4. (Currently amended)   An isolated nucleic acid molecule <u>comprising</u> ~~consisting of~~ a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of:

(a)   a nucleotide sequence that encodes a protein comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2;

(b)   a nucleotide sequence consisting of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1; and

(c)   a nucleotide sequence consisting of the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:3[[.]];

(d)   a nucleotide sequence that is the complement of a nucleotide sequence of (a)-(c).

Claims 5-7 (canceled)

Claim 8. (Previously presented)   A nucleic acid vector comprising a nucleic acid molecule of claim 4.

Claim 9. (Original)   A host cell containing the vector of claim 8.

Claims 10-23   (Canceled)

Claim 24. (Currently amended) A process for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 9 under conditions sufficient for the production of said polypeptide, and recovering the ~~peptide~~ <u>polypeptide</u> from the host cell culture.

Claim 25. (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of ~~a~~ <u>the</u> nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:1.

Claim 26. (Currently amended) An isolated polynucleotide consisting of a the nucleotide sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 27. (Previously presented)   A vector according to claim 8, wherein said vector is selected from the group consisting of a plasmid, virus, and bacteriophage.

Claim 28. (Previously presented)   A vector according to claim 8, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is inserted into said vector in proper orientation and correct reading frame such that the protein of SEQ ID NO:2 may be expressed by a cell transformed with said vector.

Claim 29. (Previously presented)   A vector according to claim 28, wherein said isolated nucleic acid molecule is operatively linked to a promoter sequence.

Claim 30. (Previously presented)   An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence that is completely complementary to a nucleotide sequence of claim 4.